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ORIGINAL

April 12, 2001

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APR 1 3 2001

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMICS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Magalie R. Salas, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re:

Notice of Oral Ex Parte Presentation by Z-Tel Communications, Inc.,

CC Docket No. 96-98

Ms. Salas:

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b)(1) of the Commission's Rules, Z-Tel Communications, Inc. ("Z-Tel"), by its attorneys, submits this notice of an oral *ex parte* presentation made in the above-captioned proceeding on April 11, 2001. The *ex parte* presentation was made during a meeting with Sarah Whitesell, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Gloria Tristani. The presentation was made by Robert Curtis, President, Z-Tel Network Services, Inc. and Michael B. Hazzard of Kelley Drye & Warren LLP.

During the presentation, Z-Tel discussed its concerns regarding restrictions on the use of the unbundled local switching network element. In accordance with Section 1.1206(b)(1), an original and two copies of this *ex parte* notification is provided for inclusion in the public record of this proceeding. Please direct any questions regarding this matter to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,,

Michael B. Hazzard

Attachment

cc:

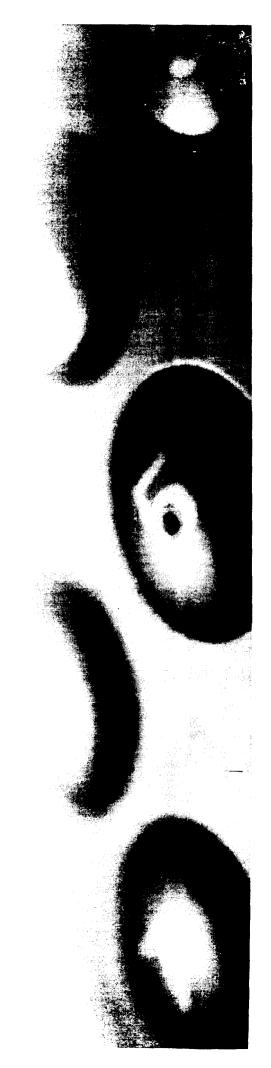
Sarah Whitesell

International Transcription Service

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Changing the Way People Communicate





Investing in Communications

- Z-Tel has invested \$100 Million in software applications over the past 2 ½ years
- We believe competition will emerge from innovation in the application layer rather than legacy infrastructure
- Z-Tel has focused on innovating and investing in new capabilities, not in replicating existing capabilities (TDM network)
- UNEP makes it possible

TEL

What We Sell



Z-Line Home Edition

THE SMART CHOICE IN LOCAL TELEPHONE SERVICE

• Unlimited Local Calling

Online Address Book



- Speed Calling
- 200 Minutes of Long Distance
 - Broadcast Messaging
 - Find Me
 - Three Way Calling
 - Caller ID
 - One Button Call Return
 - Voice Mail
 - Z-Alerts

Personalized Weather, Financial Updates ...and Morei





How Home Edition Stacks Up

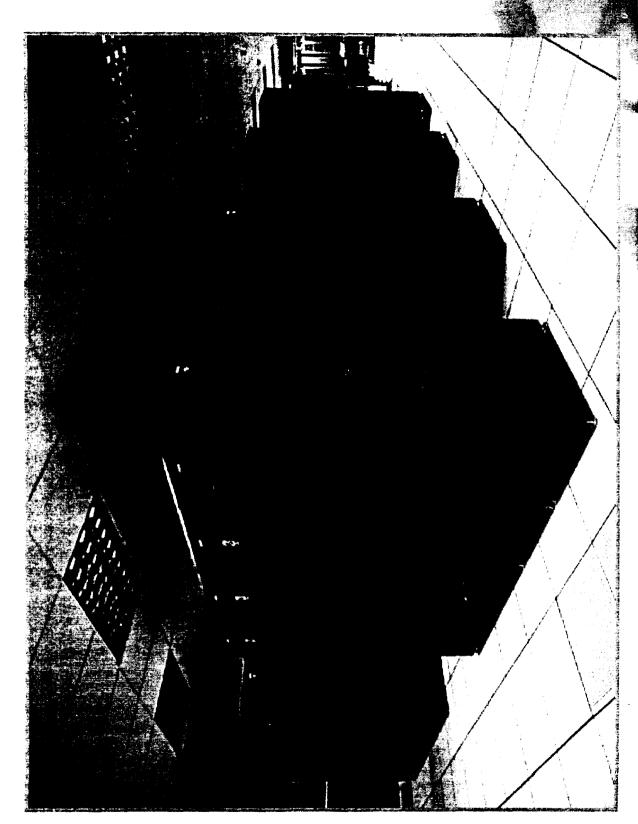
Monthly Service	Z-Tel [™]	Any Bell Company
Basic Local Phone Service	Included	\$18.25
Local Calling	Included	\$7.50
Long Distance	200 minutes included	\$20.00
Enhanced Phone Features		
Call Forwarding (Find Me)	Included	\$7.50
Caller ID	Included	
Call Waiting	Included	
Speed Calling	Included	
Three-way Calling	Included	\$13.75
		(all four features)
Z-Line Special Features		
Voicemail	Free	6.25
Community Group Messaging	Free	Not available
One-button Call Return	Free	Not available
Online Address Book	Free	Not available
E-mail, e-fax	Free	Not available
Z-Alerts	Free	Not available
Total	\$49.99	\$73.25

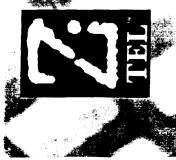


Z-Tel Services and Capabilities



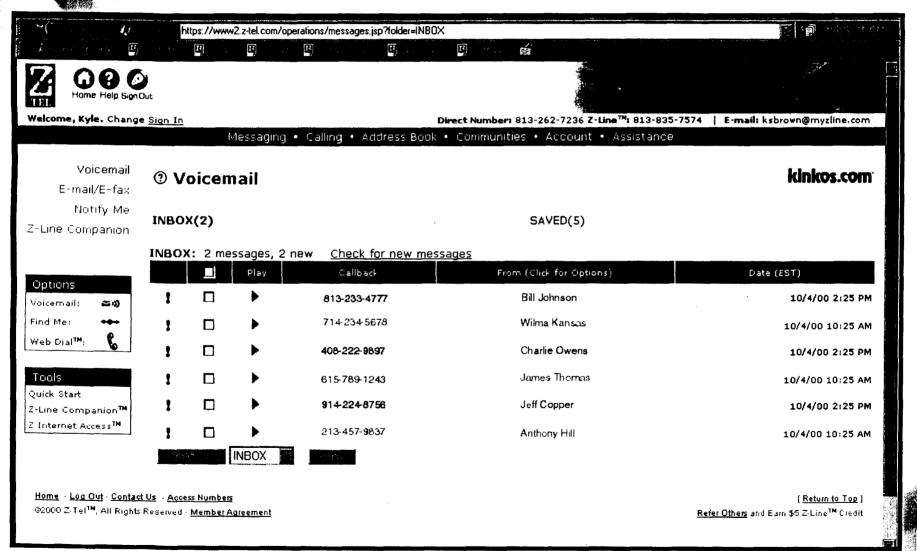








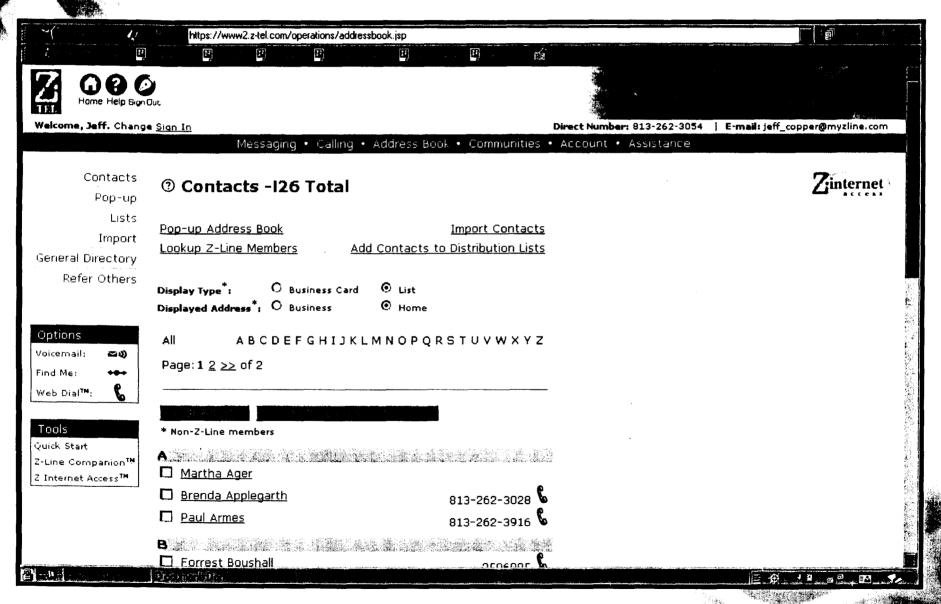
Z-Line Web Interface Messaging



Listen to voice mail on the web or any phone, reply, forward or check home voice mail instantly at work.

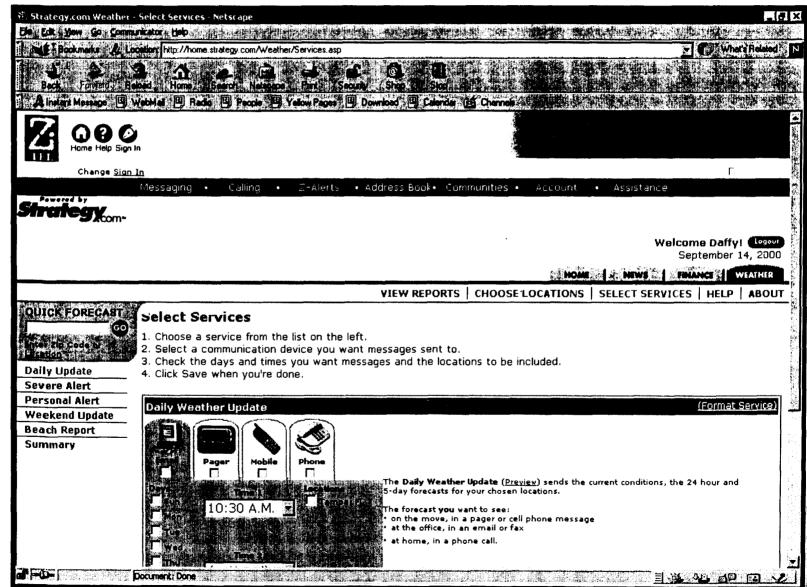
Z TEL

Z-Line Web Interface Address Book





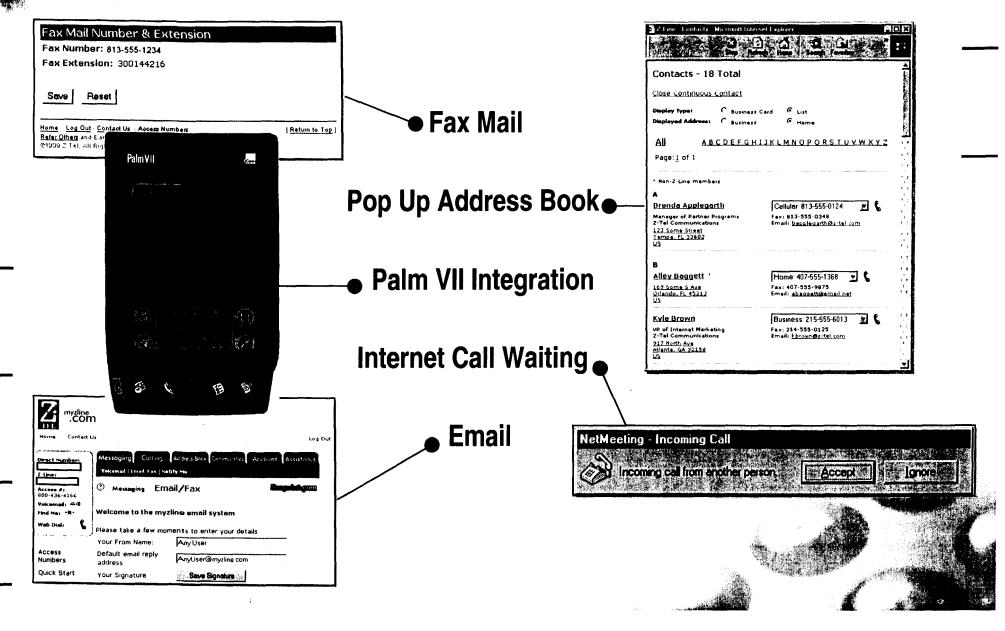
Z-Line Web Interface Z-Alerts





Widening the Gap

Recent Upgrades



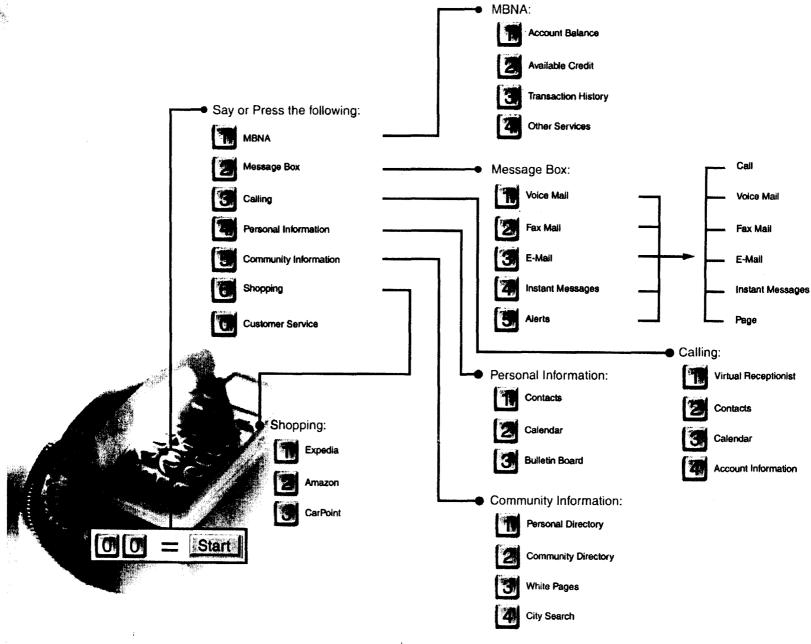
Tel Delivers Intelligent Dal Tone to Any Telephone



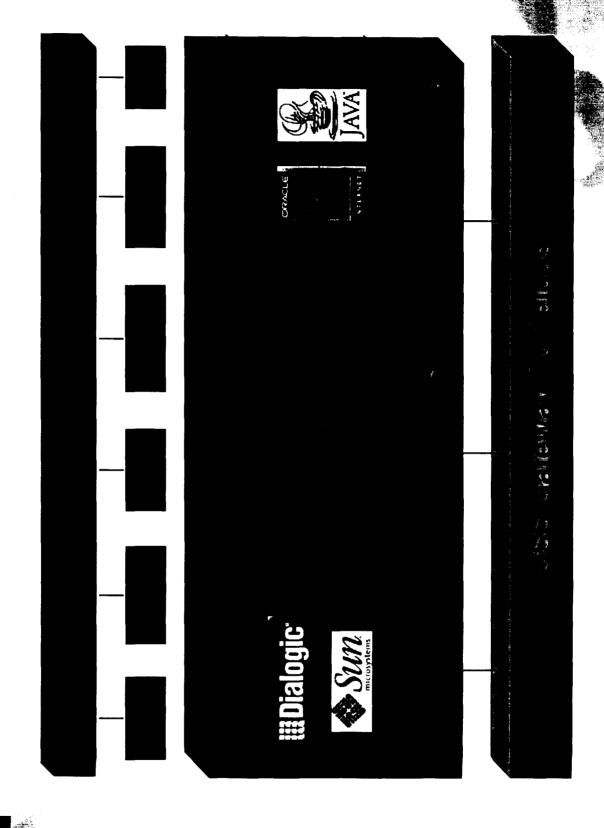


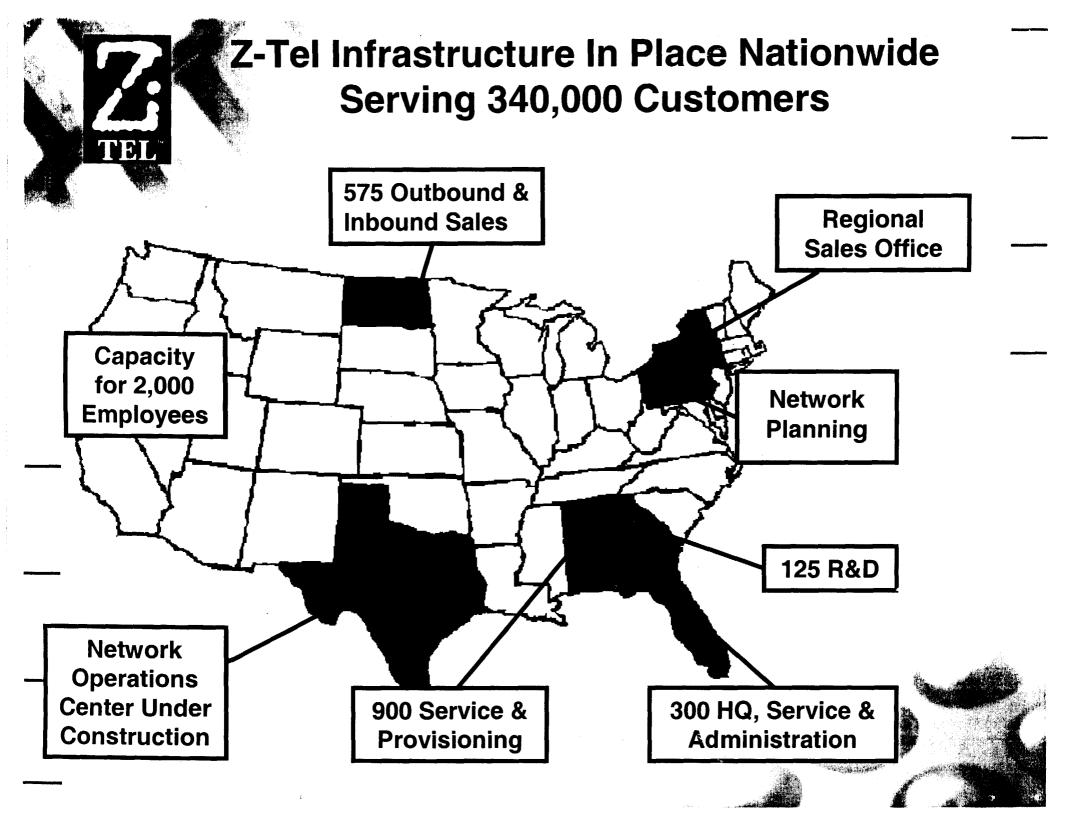


Allowing You to Do All This



Integrated Z-Technology







UNEP is Key to Innovation

Application Layer is Key to Telecom Innovation

- UNEP is Essential to Software and Application Innovations
 - Total Service Resale (TSR) Precludes Required Level of Interconnection, and therefore Forces Competitor to Offer Subset of Existing ILEC Service
- Z-Tel's Present and Future Services are made possible by focus on software development
- Z-Tel has invested over \$100MM in Software Development and Infrastructure
- UNEP allows Z-Tel to Focus on Software and Applications
 - UNEP Allows Z-Tel to Create Superset of Incumbent Service Offering
 - UNEP Does not Require Z-Tel to Duplicate Investment in Antiquated Network
 - UNEP Allows Tight Software Integration with PSTN
- Innovation Will Come as Much from Software and Applications as from New Infrastructure – and UNEP is Therefore Key





UNEP is Critical to Any Policy Promoting Innovation and Technology Investment

- UNEP is an Entry Strategy Not a Substitute for Investment
- UNEP Allows Competitor to Build Upon Legacy Infrastructure of Incumbent
 - Good Policy Should not Require Duplication of Antiquated Switching Equipment
- Resources Can be Focused On:
 - Software and Application Innovation
 - UNEP has allowed Z-Tel to actively do this
 - Deployment of Next Generation Packet Switching
 - Will allow even more sophisticated software development and services benefiting end users
- Resale Would Stifle Innovation and Investment
 - Precludes Required Integration with PSTN
 - Dooms Service Offering to Subset of ILEC Service



UNEP is Key to Mass Market

UNEP = Ubiquity

- UNEP Gives CLEC Presence in Entire ILEC Service Area
- Mass Market Entry Requires Ubiquitous Presence
 - Newspaper, Radio, Billboard Advertising Depends on Ubiquity
 - Within an MSA, Mass Market Carrier Cannot Efficiently Select to Serve Some Customers, but Not Others
 - True of Both Residential and Small Business Service
 - No CLEC is Collocated in ALL Central Offices in an MSA, so They Cannot Provide Ubiquitous Service

